

## At the Richmond Theatres This Week

**ACADEMY OF MUSIC.**  
Page-Benjamin Stock Company, Monday to Thursday nights, and Wednesday matinee, in "The Circus Girl." Friday and Saturday, and Saturday matinee—Louis James in "Peer Gynt."

**LUBIN THEATRE.**  
Continuous Vaudeville.

Louis James, in "Peer Gynt."

Few artistic events in the dramatic year approach the interest and importance attached to the coming of the Academy of Music Friday and Saturday, with a matinee on Saturday, of Louis James in "Peer Gynt," the most discussed play in many years.

When Richard Mansfield first produced this comedy of life a wave of dissipation swept the country as to whether the theme carried some hidden meaning, if the characters impersonated were symbolic or real, and if the play was really worthy of the player. The answer is now well known, for not only did Mr. Mansfield achieve the crowning triumph of his career, but established the works of Ibsen upon a more solid foundation than had heretofore been his fortune.

When Mr. Mansfield answered to nature's last call his trustees, in looking over the possible claimants for this coveted prize, chose Louis James as the player most endowed with the necessary requirements, physically, histrionically and temperamentally to continue in this great work, with the result that Mr. James is duplicating the success made by his illustrious predecessor.

Mr. James presents the entire original Richard Mansfield production intact, embellished with all the Celtic music, scenic grandeur, ballets, choruses, etc., and one of the largest and best selected companies that he has ever offered here. Apie James is his leading woman, and is an actress of charming personality and histrionic attainments.

"Peer Gynt" is the story of a life threatened by ruin by selfishness, saved by love. Peer is a Norwegian youth with a fantastic imagination and singular bravado, who has dreams of no lesser destiny for himself than a Kaiserdom. His imagination has a Midas-gift which makes a success of all he attempts. At first he only ventures the spinning of harmless lies about his own adventures, which he embroiders out of the lore of the mountains, as a jest with his mother, and to enjoy the wonder and applause of the peasants. Women are no less susceptible to the influence of his cleverness. But when his mother dies he seizes his emancipation to go on his world conquest. Every material success is his; he becomes a plutocrat and a powerful sycophant gather as his riches multiply, but he finds no sincerity in these false friends and no permanent happiness in his sordid wealth. They all dissolve, and maturity is upon him without any con-



MISS CARROLL McCOMAS,  
Leading woman with the Page Stock Company.

successful stock season this city has ever enjoyed. The large audiences which have witnessed the first week's endeavors of the Page players have taken an unmistakable liking to the company, and have demonstrated by the liberal attendance that Richmond is not tired of stock by any means, so long as the plays are well selected and presented with any degree of proficiency and intelligence. The Page company contains some clever members, capable of doing even better work than in "Mrs. Temple's Telegram," as occasion requires. At various times during the season plays of a semi-serious nature may be presented, but for the first two or three weeks it was wisely deemed best to present a comedy or two, which is always the best medium to test the taste of an audience. Manager Benjamin, of the company, and Manager Wise, of the Academy, are naturally delighted with the reception accorded the company on its first week, and with the financial results, the latter breaking all records here for an opening week of stock. Much favorable comment has been expressed by patrons over the rule of raising the curtain promptly at 8:30, the short waits and the seasonable and same hour at which the curtain drops on the last act.

The second week will be devoted to another farcical play, "The Circus Girl," by Sydney Grundy, the well-known English writer. Like "Mrs. Temple's Telegram," the fun is clean and wholesome, and of that rapid-fire variety which gives one hardly time to recover from one good laugh before being convulsed with another.

In this comedy Miss Carroll McComas is again given opportunities to display her undoubted talents as a comedienne, and likewise her musical training. It is seldom that a leading woman of a stock organization is found who both sings and dances for the benefit of her audience, yet this is what Miss McComas does in "The Circus Girl." As a singer from the London music halls, the character she assumes in the play, excellent opportunities are afforded her to consistently introduce these features. Frank Sylvester appears as Arthur Humington, "a too loving husband." It is a lively, breezy character, one exactly suited to Mr. Sylvester. George Linderman, "his much-abused friend," has another character somewhat similar to that in which he has made such a big hit the past week. Alfred Hudson has one of those character roles for which he is famous, while Jerome Renner plays an important character, Mabel Rowland, Valerie Valaire, and Mabel Tremey are cast in minor, but congenial roles. Maye Louise Aigen will make her first appearance here with the company. Miss Aigen will play an important character role for which she has been expressly sent here by Manager Page from his Baltimore company.

The Page Company will give no performances here on Friday and Saturday, as Louis James appears on those nights, but will resume its season on

the Monday following with "Prince Karl."

The Week at the Lubin.

There are many excellent features for the Lubin for the coming week, among the vaudeville numbers being the Three Hillyers, offering one of the most novel creations ever conceived in vaudeville. "On Top of the Garden Wall" is the vehicle, which gives them opportunity to offer two live cats in a comical duel that is said to be one of the most laughable stunts ever seen in vaudeville.

Allen May and company will present another funny sketch in "The Stranded Actor," a number that should give them a wide scope in which to find funny situations such as would prove amusing.

Tommy Harris, one of the cleverest comedians now before the public, will be seen in a novelty monologue singing and dancing number that possesses much of merit to commend it.

Mears, the bugler, will offer a musical oddity that is said to be something entirely different from the usual run of acts of this kind.

New Records.

The new Victor talking machine records for May have been received here, and the person desiring to hear the liquid melody of Melba's voice in so enchanting a revelation as Tom Moore's "Believe Me, If All Those Ever-Deceiving Young Charms," has only to invoke the fitting of a black disc and a few revolutions of a crank to be straightway transported to song heaven.

The source of tears and laughter lies so close together that when one song disc is whisked aside and another put in its place, an audience of one at a Victor concert, by swift transition, is feeling and hearing a baseball game through the magic of Dipsy Dole's tale. He isn't himself in the least, but a couple of boys who are discussing the game from the right field fence, roasting the umpire and getting more fun from the game for themselves and the audience than any other persons present.

When the game has been played to a finish, there comes Mische Elman and his wonderful violin to catch and hold the ear and the heart of a listener. The vibration of a "Spring Song," with its suggestions of apple blossoms and of roses ruffled by the light caress of a warm, sweet wind creeps into the senses as the violinist plays on. After a while the dream of the lullaby is broken, and the violin acrobats a faint, clear call like a crystal echo that is followed by the tinkling of fairy feet in an elfin dance, with the moonlight shining down upon a dew bespangled flower award, where the tiny rings are drawn.

To be awakened from a musical dream of fairyland is always a trying experiment for a listener, but when one comes back to the world of reality and finds one's self still seated in the velvet throne of the Victor, while Will Oakland is singing in his clear, tenor voice such an old-time favorite as "Silver Threads Among the Gold," one can but sigh with thankfulness to think that there are still some old people who when love remains eternally young and that the audience belongs to that number.

Believing the future of Richmond is exceedingly bright for gaining prestige as the leading musical center of the South, and wishing to supplement the excellent work of the Wednesday Club in this direction, W. L. Radcliffe, of the Radcliffe Entertainment Bureau, has completed details for a series of nine concerts, to be given in the City Auditorium, such as have never been equalled here, and seldom, if ever, surpassed in any city of even larger size. These concerts are to be given during the week beginning Monday, May 31, and closing Saturday evening, June 5, including three afternoon concerts.

Two years ago, when Mr. Radcliffe gave a series of summer concerts in the Horse Show Building here, he gave the city the best program that could be arranged at that time. Since then he has assumed the management of many other leading vocal and instrumental soloists, and is to-day able to offer to the residents of Richmond and vicinity such artists as Mme. Jean Jomelli, soprano, formerly of the Metropolitan and Manhattan Opera Houses; Mme. Charlotte Macenda, coloratura soprano, original Princess Bonnie of the De Koven popular opera of that name; Miss Florence Hinkle, soprano soloist of Marble Collegiate Church, New York; Miss Adah Campbell Hussey, contralto soloist, Marble Collegiate Church, and engaged two seasons with the Worcester Musical Festival; Edward Strong, tenor of the Chicago Orchestra for three seasons and twice soloist of the Worcester festival; Edward Martin,

## Amusements.

The Guy Carleton Lee Lecture

In Auditorium of Virginia Mechanics' Institute.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, May 3, 4 and 5.

Under auspices of Commonwealth Chapter, D. A. R.

Single Admission, \$1.00. Season Tickets, \$1.50.

Tickets on sale at Mechanics' Institute and Polk Miller Drug Company.



FRANK L. SYLVESTER.

olation of rectitude. He returns to the mountains of the north and finds there the woman Solveig, who years before offered him the priceless love of a pure heart. She has been faithful to her love for him her whole life long, and in her heart he finds his true haven and heaven. "There was his Kaiserdom."

The story of "Peer Gynt" is embroidered in tender sentiment, frequently with romping humor, and at times with a fantastic introduction of the supernatural. This last is represented by several allegorical figures.

"The Circus Girl." Now that the new stock company which Messrs. Page and Benjamin have brought here is fairly launched upon a wave of prosperity at the Academy, it only remains for this organization to continue to give Richmond the same smooth and well presented performances that it has in "Mrs. Temple's Telegram" to ensure it of the most suc-



LOUIS JAMES AS "PEER GYNT," ACT IV.  
Academy, Friday and Saturday and Saturday matinee.

## THE RADCLIFFE

## Mid-Summer Music Festival

AT THE AUDITORIUM,

Entire Week, Monday, May 31, to Saturday, June 5, Inclusive.

Performances Six Nights and Three Afternoons, Presenting the Celebrated Artists:

MME. JEAN JOMELLI, Soprano, formerly with Metropolitan and Manhattan Opera Companies.

MME. CHARLOTTE MACONDA, Prima Donna Soprano.

FLORENCE HINKLE, Soprano. EDWARD STRONG, Tenor.

ADAH CAMPBELL HUSSEY, Contralto. FREDERICK MARTIN, Bass.

CECIL JAMES, Tenor. DR. ION JACKSON, Tenor.

DR. CARL DUFT, Baritone

and the

## PITTSBURGH FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA,

CARL BERNTHALER, Conductor.

FRANZ KOHLAR, Violinist.

FRITZ GOERNER, Cellist.

OTTO ZEGEL, Trumpet.

JOSEPH SCHNECKER, Harpist.

Four great Instrumental Soloists who have toured Europe as well as America under such noted Orchestra conductors as Edward Lassen, Richard Strauss, Victor Herbert and Emil Paur.

Nine Magnificent Programs Covering Almost the Entire Range of Popular and Classical Music.

A limited number of Season Tickets at the following

## SCALE OF PRICES.

Season Ticket, good for one Reserved Seat any three night performances and one afternoon..... \$3.00

Double Season Tickets, good for two Reserved Seats, any three night performances and one afternoon \$5.00

## SEASON TICKET COUPON.

Mail this Coupon immediately to secure Season Tickets.  
Radcliffe Entertainment Bureau,  
300 Commonwealth Bank Building, Richmond, Va.  
Dear Sir—  
Enroll my name for ..... single Season Tickets at \$3.00 each for three of the night performances and one afternoon of the Mid-Summer Music Festival to be held in the City Auditorium May 31 to June 5, inclusive. Selection of concerts to be made by me at time of reservation of seats or during Festival. I agree to pay for said tickets when delivered to my address.  
Signed..... No..... Street.  
Subscribers living out of town who send check or money order with subscription will receive their tickets promptly by mail.

basso, for four seasons with the Worcester festival; Cecil James, tenor, engaged in touring the country with some of the leading orchestras of the United States; Dr. Ion Jackson, soloist Fifth Avenue Collegiate Church, New York; Dr. Carl Duft, baritone soloist for the New York Chautauque. These compose the list of vocal soloists for the series, but they are by no means all that are to be heard here, for Mr. Radcliffe has included such instrumentalists of international reputation as Franz Kohler, violin virtuoso; Fritz Goerner, cellist; Otto Kenzel, cornetist; Joseph Schuecker, harpist. Each of these musicians has toured this country and Europe with some of the leading orchestras and under the direction of such famous men as Richard Strauss, Edward Lassen, Victor Herbert and Emil Paur.

That nothing should be left undone to make this series the greatest ever offered here and the peer of that offered elsewhere, Mr. Radcliffe has not contented himself with bringing only the vocal and instrumental soloists, but has added to the attractiveness of the program by bringing in the great Pittsburgh Festival Orchestra, under the direction of Carl Benzler, said to be the ablest and handsomest young conductor on the concert stage to-day. Mr. Radcliffe had practically completed the details for these concerts some weeks before the recent concerts of the Wednesday Club, but, being a member of that organization, and desiring to do all in his power to make the music festival a success, he withheld all announcements of his plans until that club had brought its festival to a successful conclusion.

Vaudeville at the Gaiety.  
The Gaiety Theatre will reopen tomorrow night after extensive alterations and repairs, with vaudeville at popular prices. The management of the little playhouse announces that it will give the best to be had, with new moving pictures. Illustrated songs will be rendered by "Billy" Sheldon. The bill will be changed on Wednesday and Friday. The opening feature acts will be Miss Louise Byrd, as "The Colonial Girl," whose beauty and captivating voice have won many audience, and Eckert and Frances, in a comedy act, in which there is humor every minute.

Fight His Way Into Prominence.  
Sam Langford, the Boston negro, who has been turned down by Jack Johnson, Al Kaufman and Stanley Ketchel, has decided to fight his way to a position of such prominence in the pugilistic world that before long he will have public opinion with him in his struggle to get a crack at the heavyweight title.

Demonstration of BARRETTES and SHELL GOODS MONDAY AND TUESDAY at KAUFMANN & CO.

"Ask Mr. Bowman," Phone 5154. Hotel, Railroad and Steamship, Free Information Bureau.

## ACADEMY Week Beginning MONDAY, MAY 3

SECOND WEEK OF THE SPRING AND SUMMER SEASON.

EXCEPTING FRIDAY NIGHT AND SATURDAY MATINEE AND NIGHT. REGULAR MATINEE WEDNESDAY.

THE PAGE-BENJAMIN CO. (INC.) PRESENTS THE

## Page Stock Co.

IN SYDNEY GRUNDY'S FAMOUS COMEDY,

## The Circus Girl

ALL THE FAVORITES AND SOME NEW MEMBERS IN THE CAST.

Miss Carroll McComas

in the Title Role Will Sing and Dance.

NEVER-CHANGING PRICES: Evenings, 15c to 50c; Matinees, 15c to 35c.

## GAIETY THEATRE

In Heart of Shopping District

Monday, May 3—VAUDEVILLE ALL FEATURE ACTS

Performance will be from 3:30 to 11 P. M. Complete change of bill Mondays and Thursdays.

Prices, 10c; ladies and children, matinees, 5c.

## ACADEMY OF MUSIC

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHTS, MAY 7TH AND 8TH.

MATINEE SATURDAY. THE DRAMATIC SENSATION OF THE AGE. MASTERPIECE OF AUTHOR, COMPOSER AND PLAYER.

## ...Louis James...

SUPPORTED BY APPIE JAMES AND GREAT CAST, PRESENTING HENRIK IBSEN'S DRAMA.

## PEER GYNT

RICHARD MANSFIELD'S ORIGINAL MAMMOTH PRODUCTION. GRIEG'S CELEBRATED MUSIC BY AUGMENTED ORCHESTRA.

75 People—Chorus—Ballet.

SEATS NOW ON SALE. PRICES: MATINEE, \$1.50, \$1, 75c, 50c, 25c; NIGHTS, \$1.50, \$1, 75c, 50c.

## LUBIN THEATRE

OFFERS THIS WEEK

## The Celebrated 3 Hillyers

IN THEIR AMUSING EUROPEAN NOVELTY ACT, "ON TOP OF THE GARDEN WALLS," INTRODUCING TWO LIVE CATS IN A DUEL.

## Allen May and Company

IN THEIR ATTRACTIVE COMEDY SKETCH, "STRANDED."

## Charles E. Mears

THE BOY WHO PLAYS ANYTHING ON A BUGLE. And other Grand Attractions and Life-Motion Pictures of the usual high Lubin standard. Continuous performance from 2 to 11 P. M. No intermission. Admission, 10c; ladies and children at matinees, 5c.

## A GALA WEEK!

...THE...

## Colored Tuesday Club's

Fourth Annual Music Festival in True Reformers' Opera Hall on

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday Evenings

MAY 3, 4 AND 5, 1909,

8:30 O'CLOCK.

ORATORIOS, SYMPHONIES AND GRAND OPERA

GENERAL ADMISSION..... 25 CENTS.

RESERVED SEATS..... 35 CENTS.

SEASON TICKETS (RESERVED SEATS) FOR THREE NIGHTS..... \$1.00.

ARTISTS.

SUSIE BELL ANDERSON, (Black Melba), Soprano.

BESSIE LOMAX, Soprano.

IDA GLOVER DEAN, Soprano.

LOVEONA DORSEY, Soprano.

EVA BOOKER EVANS, Contralto.

CORA HARRIS, Alto.

PROFESSOR T. M. CRUMP, (the colored Caruso), Tenor.

W. B. SMITH, JR., (the colored Antonio Scotti), Baritone.

DR. Q. W. NOON, (just as good as Fol Francon), Bass.

SPECIAL.

ROSLYN CARMELLA CROVES, Atlanta, Ga., and recently from a tour in Italy, will sing from Grand Opera, "Love is Like a Wild Bird," (Carmen).

Seats now on sale at True Reformers' Savings Bank.

Phones, Nos. 704, 773, 7234.

Arrangements for white people each night.